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THE
British Blood-Hounds;
OR A
CHASE
AFTER THE
State Run-a-ways,
A
FABLE,
With a true Copy of the Pretender's
Last WILL.

LONDON:

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The British Blood-Hounds, or a Cbase after the State Run-a- Ways, &c.

Citizen, SO honest Keeper, you are going
your rounds.

Forrester, Yes Sir, and I presume you are
riding for the Air.

Citiz. I am so, for at present I have but
indifferent health of Body, tho pleased to
a great degree in mind.

Forr. Your misfortuue realy troubles me,
but if it be no Secret, what good News
may be the cause of your great Joy?

Cit. Such as I doubt not you will be as
glad to hear as I am to tell you ; then to
satisfye your curiosituy—Dadys ill humors
are all broke out, which were occasioned
by the great Surfeit he got at an Hunting-
match last Year.

Forr. I allways took him for so Sedate a
Statesman, as never to have the least relish
of that Diversion.

Cit. I wonder you should so much mistake
him, for he is a very Nimrod in his Na-
tural temper, and when he was one of the
Masters

Masters of the British Blood-hounds, he took more delight in hunting an innocent Protestant than the keenest Sportsman could do in persuit of the subtle and longwinded Fox.

Forr. Methinks 'tis far Nobler to affail a Gallick Wolf that makes resistance in the Field, than an harmless British Hare whose Course he well knew, so could easily intercept her in the Chase.

Cit. True, where pure diversion is their only design, but he takes more pleasure to see the poor creature turning upon a Spit, than making either a nimble flight, or sharp resistance in the field.

Forr. If that be his method in sporting, I can call him no less than a Potcher.

Cit. You may term him what you please, but I can assure you he esteems that Man a better Sportsman who kills an Hare napping upon her Form, than him who gives her fair Law for her Life.

Forr. That indeed is the direct way to make a total destruction of the Game,

Cit. 'Twas the only design of the Chace.

Forr. Did he never delight in Hunting Beasts of Prey?

Cit. No, those are the Creatures he cherishes, 'tis pleasure to such as he to see Wolves out number Sheep in the field, and more Plunderers in our Markets than fair buyers.

Forr.

Forr. Pray what title does this Prodigy of humane Race assume to themselves?

Cit. They were once called *Tories*, but now are too well known by the horrid name of Protestant Hunters.

Forr. Titles well adapted to their base practices, the first I think denotes a Plunderer, the latter a Murderer.

Cit. These are reckoned pious actions among them, and let me tell you, he deserves the largest Red-letter in the *Popes* Kallender after his decease, whose Meritorious hands have been oftenest dyed with Heritical Blood.

Forr. Be so kind to give me a short account of their way of Hunting.

Cit. Their methods are very peculiar, because they only hunt the harmless Game, and spare all Beasts of Prey, which all useful People take pains to destroy.

Forr. From what Strain are their Hounds bred.

Cit. From an old *Romish* Bitch called *Babylon*, and a long legged *Irish* Dog called *Tory*.

Forr. Then surely they must be true Blood-hounds in their nature.

Cit. So true, that they can discover the footsteps of a true Protestant, and hunt him out of place like a blown Deer.

Forr. That seems very extraordinary.

Cit.

Cit. Not at all, because that's the Game they are entered at when grown fit for the Sport.

Forr. I have heard that no Country can produce stancher Hounds than our own.

Cit. True; when they are once broke of their natural haunt after the Wolf, they exceed all others.

Forr. Have any of our own native breed arriv'd to that perfection of late?

Cit. Yes several, we entered six *Couple* together, most of them as good as ever went into the Field, besides above an hundred and fifty couple of lagg Hounds which served to make up the Cry, tho they never took the scent. But the six couple I first mentioned and some few more headed the Pack.

Forr. Is it usual to name all the Hounds in such a numerous Cry?

Cit. Only some few of the Staunch ones, whose Cry we may depend upon, as for example, when one of those cry it off, our usual term is, heark to such a one; when immediately the rest toss up their Noses and hasten after the trusty leader.

Forr. That part is very much after our manner, but since you are pleased to be so free with me, i'l make bold to ask you if ever you made one in the Field amongst them.

Cit.

Cit. Only to see the nature of their Diversion, but not such an harebrain'd fool to endanger my Neck for such Sport.

Forr. I am loth to trouble you to repeat their Names in general, only for a little insight into the whole matter, desire to know a couple of Leaders.

Cit. The last time I read the List, *Gambal* was the Fleetest at a view, and *Sealer* the best to make out a fault, besides many others very remarkable, both for cold hunt and burning scent, in short 'tis my opinion the Pope never had so compleat a Pack of killing Dogs before.

Forr. Were none of them apt to fly off if a Cony bolted in their way?

Cit. Yes, even one of the Top of their Cry, *Gambal* by Name, in the heat of a Chace, woul straggle from the Pack, either upon a view or scent.

Forr. 'Twasmuch they could never break him of that pernicious haunt.

Cit. 'Twould be impossible to do it, because he was so frequently led into a Warren by a brisk neighbouring Curr called *Coucher*, who never beset a burrow empty of Game, nor scarce ever left it without feasting upon the Prize, therefore being so often Blooded, he'll never leave it till he grows old, or loses his Nose.

Forr.

Forr. One would think that Curr might have been brought to hunt with the Pack.

Cit. No doubt of it, and had the Mistress of them lived till now, he would in all probability run up with the best.

Forr. Is the owner Dead?

Cit. Some months since, and as I have heard they have never had one day of Sport since the unfortunate loss.

Forr. Did she leave no Heirs who delighted in hunting.

Cit. Yes, there's one who pretends to lay claim to her Estate too, but that he'll never obtain, and the other he is not able to keep. For a man who maintains such a devouring Pack, has need of the Golden Mines to support them.

Forr. Who is chief Ranger of our Forrests now?

Cit. One who will have as smart a Pack to hunt the *French* Wolf, as were those to persecute the innocent Game.

Forr. Then I suppose the Strain will be quite altered.

Cit. Indeed I believe none of the old ones will be admitted, least they should run Counter and spoil a good Pack.

Forr. I had almost forgot to ask if no Strangers ever hunted with them.

Cit. Yes abundance; for the Lady kept such a generous Table, that even Priests and

and Fugitives were welcome to partake of her Bounty, and to hunt in her Forrest for diversion; and had not the Misfortune beforementioned happened, 'twas thought the Chevalier de St. George had been Ranger, before now.

Forr. is it usual for Priests to take delight in hunting?

Cit. They were the first Inventors of the Diversion.

Forr. As how?

Cit. The covetous Temper of the Clergy in general, I need not tell you; but in short, the Pope called himself Lord Paramount, and demanded Tiths of the Game from every Mannor, some having Consciences more scrupulous than the rest, refused to comply with his demand, so ever since, his Holiness has encouraged that Crew to trespass upon any mans grounds, and even break thro' any thing, in pursuit of their Game.

Forr. I think they were much in the right not to suffer those innocent Creatures to come under the Hands of such murthering Cooks. But do you think our present Ranger will either tamely suffer, or privately connive at such unquallified vagrants sporting in his Forrest?

Cit. No, you may assure your self, he'll not only keep such off the Premises, but

also punish all those with the utmost rigor of the Forrest Laws (who tho' not killed) have affrighted his Game.

Forr. Does the Law direct a Penalty for any thing less than killing?

Cit. Yes, whosoever Courses or Shoots at a Deer within the Bounds of the Forrest, is liable to the same Mischief, altho' he neither catches or wounds, as he that actually kills and carries away.

Forr. In what nature is the Punishment?

Cit. The Tools they made use off, whether Guns, Nets or Dogs, are broken, cut or hanged up, in the face of the Court.

Forr. It seems too severe to hang a Dog, for obeying his Masters command.

Cit. Not at all, because being noted for the Sport, they might be enticed to the same mischief another Time, so the Forrest would be never free from such Disasters.

Forr. I am realy overjoy'd to think our Forrest is likely to be quiet for the future, for had such practices been long pursued the Pope's damned Pack would have made sad Havock among our Deer, and then the Devil might pay us our Fees.

Cit. Aye, for that Crew never pay any Fees, but to their Hypocritical Priests for Absolution. But tho' a Keeper, you seem ignorant of the Forrest-Law.

old Ferris. Whenever I meet any body in my Walk, that can't give an account of their Qualifications, I execute the Law immediatly upon their pernicious Utensils, tho' I knew not that the Authors were liable to so great Penalties for only disturbing the Game.

on God I could wish every man was so carefull in his Office as you seem to be, then I believe we should have fewer unlawful actions either committed or attempted. But I have still a greater piece of News to tell you.

no Future Pray! what's that? *It is said now*
old Cato has reported the Chevalier de St. George, considering the great frailty of Human Nature and the certainty of Mortality, has for avoiding all disputes, that may, and are likely to arise after his decease, made his last Will and Testament.

Forr. Has that Warming-pan beggarly Brat made a Will? *No wonder he is so poor.*
Cat. Yes, and a very cunning one too.

old Ferris. Pray who was his Lawyer?
In City Med Codicil, a Man as well vers'd

in Affairs of that nature, as any one in Great Britain.
old Ferris. That may be, but what a Rox has he got leave? *Pray tell me.* *He has*
no less than Three or four Kingdoms, be-
sides a thousand strong Castles in the Air,
to great Estates in Nubibus, and as I have

heard, he lays claim to the World in the Moon.

Forr. I can give a shrewd guess upon what foundation he builds most of his pretensions, but have not the least Notion which way he can claim a right to the World in the Moon.

Cit. After this manner; he was born no body knows where, nor when, nor can the poor unfortunate Wretch ever learn of whom, so consequently can have no pretensions to any peculiar Father; so being grown up to a true sense of his condition, he presumes to affirm, that the man in the Moon was his Father, and is resolv'd after his said Fathers Decease, his, or his Heirs among other things, shall push hard for that World.

Forr. Now favour me with a brief Account of his pretended Will.

Cit. As far as I know of the matter, you shall have a perfect Accounts. *Imp.* What Money he shall have in his pocket at the Time of his decease (which I believe will be more than all his own Substance) he bequeaths to his careful tutor and trusty friend, *Lesley* the Apostate, to pray his Soul out of Purgatory. *Item.* The Principallity of Wales, the aforesaid *Daddy*, in consideration of his strenuous endeavours at all times to serve him, tho' with the utmost Hazard of his own Life. *Item,* The Kingdoms of Great Britain

Brittain and Ireland to be sold to the best Bidder, for the Benefit of his Executors.

Forr. Pray who are they?

Cit. Mr. Mitre, Mr. Scammonby and Dr. Bunney.

Forr. Did you ever hear his reason for making those three Executors above the rest of his friends?

Cit. Yes, the first in Consideration of his useful advice in Council, the second for concluding the matters abroad, and the last for preaching up all such transactions for wholesome Doctrine at home.

Forr. to whom has he bequeath'd the Pack he had for the Protestant Chace?

Cit. All that are not hanged, or otherwise dead before his Decease, are left for his Holiness the Pope's use.

Forr. But I am informed Gamball (as you call him) one of the leading hounds, has already forsook his kennel and straggled to his young Master.

Cit. 'Tis no wonder surely among you *Forresters*, to see a Sheep-biting Curr creep away, at the very smack of a true Huntsman's Whip.

Forr. Whom has he recommended to his Holiness for an Huntsman?

Cit. One Will Wildfire, a fellow very fit for the busness, he never looks, but leaps at all, and rather than baulk his Sport, will ride

side over his Neighbours Corn, with the same satisfaction as over the Waſt.

Ferr. I think both his Name and qualifications, would make him a compleat Huntsman for the Devil.

Cit. So they all are, and you must know that the Devil is always Executor to the Pope.

Cit. Then these Sportsmen you mention may meet in Time at a warmer Chace, and have hunting enough with a Devil to 'em.

Cit. And I think you need not care where they hunt, since my dear *Ferr.* is free from them, disengaged and ready at any

Ferr. That's sufficient, but now be so kind to give me what farther Account you can of the Willows.

Cit. His Bilboashe has bequeathed his Peaceful General, being so fast rusted into the Scabbard that he won't draw. And his son *Ferr.* Is it not usual in matters of so great concern to leave the Executors Mourning in particular? Now on e'T' A.D.

Cit. Yes, but 'tis my opinion, he thinks notwithstanding he has made a Will himself, he may have occasion to mourn for some of them first and most.

Ferr. Are any of them at present disengaged? well a suffiſh man on O ACO
Only keep up a little for a cold, fearing it may either turn to a violent Head-

Head-Ach, or a bad Creek in the Neck.

Farr. Methinks their Friends are very careless of their Welfare, not to have the Advice of the two Colledges of State Physicians.

Cit. So they will in a very little Time, and as I have heard, their Case requires their speedy taking the Air, some at Tower-Hill, the rest at High-Park Corner, according as the state of their Case differs.

Farr. Now let me hear the conclusion of the Will.

Cit. All true Protestants are cut off with a Shilling, and that not to be paid till a whole Year after his decease, according to the utmost limits the Law allows in Case of Legacies.

Farr. Are these his dying Thoughts, after such Protestations and Declarations to the contrary?

Cit. They were but specious Pretences, such as that Religion always allowed of to gain their Ends.

Farr. Who were the Witnesses to this sham Will?

Cit. Twas Signed, Sealed and delivered into the Popes Hand, and imediately put into a Box with five different Locks, his Holiness taking one Key, another being conveyed by his Apostate Tutor Mr. Lessy, to the most Christian King, and three others

to his Executors in Great Britain, in the presence of the two Rebel Electors, the Duke of Lorrain, and the Excellent Mr. ~~Pr—r.~~

Forr. I think it was done in a great deal of Form, but still art of the opinion it won't stand good in Equity.

Cit. How can you pretend to determine matters in Law.

Forr. Nay, I dont know, only I have heard folks talk, that no Out-Law'd Person can make a Will.

Cit. 'Tis very true, but this is a preparation in case the Brittons should choose Slavery after his decease; but if he lives, you may perceive by some late Transactions, he can shew them a much nearer way to it.

Forr. I pray God keep our Forrest from such a Ranger, for should he once bear command here I am sure to be no longer Keeper.

Cit. Every man for his own Interest.

Forr. I wish as well to the Publick by those words, as any man can do by a thousand Expressions. For if he takes notice to displace and persecute such poor fellows as his Keepers, I am sure the Calamity must fall heavy in general.

Cit. That indeed would be the fatal consequence, but let us desist talking of Tragical things, since such glorious Scenes of Joy are before our Eyes.

Forr.

Forr. I have a great desire to know what happiness is likely to attend us, by our present Change ; and to begin, let me understand what sort of Man our present Ranger is ?

Ch. He is a little man with a great Soul, one whom Grandure can never move to Pride, who has the utmost Perfections of goodness, void of the least mixture of Hypocrisie, an entire lover of his approved Friends, but a just rewarder of treachery, in short, he keeps a due decorum in all his Actions. He was always Valliant in War, without Cruelty to the Vanquish'd ; and a lover of Recreation at home, without Riot and Excess.

Forr. That's the Man for my Money, for I know a Generous and Great Soul, is always above a mean Action, want of Pride, shows a Perfection of Goodness ; where goodness reigns without hypocrisie, we need not dread any Infringement upon our Rights and Liberties, kindness to friends will not only rivet their Friendship fast to him, but also be an Effectual means to increase their Number, whilst punishment of known Treachery, is as true a method to prevent all future attempts ; known Courage in the Field, will quench the fiery Zeal of his profest enemies abroad, and innocent diversions at home, plainly demonstrate a

C. III. temper

temper affable and free, and is the only way to win the hearts of all those who are under him. But do you hear how our new Game-keepers intend to proceed against those vile Potchers we spake off before.

Cit. Since you have so good a notion of things, let us leave all vulgar Terms, and Converse more plainly about matters of State.

Forr. With all my heart, for tho' I am but an ignorant fellow, yet I love to hear what they do at Court.

Cit. Then tell me what Topick we shall discourse on.

Forr. Be pleased first to inform me of the great happiness we are like to receive from our Succession?

Cit. The Heir apparent to our Crown, is the very Counterpart of the Person I just now mentioned, his Princess is the Original of all Perfections, besides many flourishing Plants from those glorious Stocks to compleat the beauty of our Royal Garden.

Forr. Then if we are miserable after all these Blessings, it must proceed from our own imprudent choice.

Cit. I doubt not our Loyal and Faithful Patriots will take care to pluck up all poisonous Weeds whose hasty growth had almost turned a pleasant Paradice into a melancholy Wilderness.

Forr. Which way will their Proceedings tend?

Cit. Some People, whose blind Zeal favours all the Actions of whatever Party they espouse, pretend to say the treacherous crew will only be Impeached of high Crimes and Misdemeanours, but I am afraid that will prove the least of their Guilt.

Forr. Then I presume you imagine the Impeachment will be High Treason.

Cit. Their Actions and Endeavours call for no less.

Forr. Were they hatching a Plot against our late Queen?

Cit. That Minister who persuades his Sovereign to Act contrary to the Constitution, Honour and Safety of their Country, is as much guilty of High Treason, as the Person who either obeys such pernicious Commands, or acts such Tragical parts of his own Head. And always remember that a *Parricide* is as bad as a *Regicide*, both poisonous Creatures, not fit to be called Men.

Forr. Then I suppose we shall have Hanging or Beheading in a little Time.

Cit. I for my own part am for no less than a Bill of Attainder, and those who are Wretches of titular Honour degraded, and all their Estates in general Confiscated.

Forr. That seems hard upon an innocent Family.

Cit.

Cit. Not at all, for how can they expect any thing should prosper from the Hands of such Miscreant Parents, who betrayed their Country to acquire it? But if a Merciful Prince, shall, after the Execution of Justice, allot them an handsome Competency to mitigate their Misfortunes, and keep them above the contempt of the World. It will, without doubt, prove a more lasting Blessing to their Posterity, than a cankered Mass of ill got Wealth from a vile Ancestor.

Forr. But wont the degrading these Persons be a Blurr upon Quality in general?

Cit. Where a Mans Honour was conferred upon him for promoting of his Treachery, no Action can be more just, than to deprive him of the One, before he suffers for the other.

Forr. Indeed I am entirely of that opinion, and 'tis fit those Hands should grace our City Gates, which they intended to set open for the entrance of an Invader.

Cit. Aye, and as their Traiterous Heads Projected a Publick Confusion, so should they be exposed to a Publick Shame.

Forr. Now I understand the meaning Tyburn was re-built at this juncture, for I think a New and Strong Gallows is rightly adapted to so great and unparalleled Crimes.

Cir.

Cit. You seem to be so true a lover of your Country, that I suppose your Curiosity will lead you to see their Exit.

Ferr. I shall lay aside all Business that day.

Cit. Indeed 'twill be worth your while, for perhaps you never see Horses so finely Equipt in your Life before. The last Time I saw so graciefull a sight, tho' only with a poor Servant, the Beasts walked so Stately in their Gay Harness as if sensible of the great Service they were doing their Country.

Ferr. Then surely when the Masters go, the Sight will be much finer. And methinks I should be proud to drive the useful Sledge, with such a Pernicious Load, tho' the Gawdy Team was bedecked at my own Expence.

Cit. I doubt not but your hearty Zeal will be Rewarded with Preferment, but least I should stay beyond my Time, I must bid thee Honest Keeper, Adieu, till that Merry Meeting.

F I N I S.

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